Reduction of fees in Vernacular Middle Schools.

247 ✻ **MR. E. P. VARGHESE**: Will the Government be pleasad to state whether compensation is allowed for reduction of fees in Vernacular Middle Schools?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON (*Director of Public Instruction*): No.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: May I know whether these reductions have been made on the advice of the department?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Fee reduction has been made on the request of the department.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE May I know whether the salaries of teachers have been reduced due to this reason?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: To the knowledge of the department, the pay of the teachers has not been reduced.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: May I know whether there was any understanding with the Managers that they will be compensated for the reduction of fees?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: For the first year compensation was promised, because then the Managers were taken by surprise.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: May I know whether every year the department has been advising the Managers to keep the fees at a reduced rate?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: The concession was for the last year and the same has been recently sanctioned for this year also.

Appointment of Arabic Instructors.

248 ✻**MR. M. K. MACKAR PILLAI** (*Kunnatnad* cum *Paru*): Will the Government be pleased to state in which schools Arabic Instructors were appointed during the school year 1112—1113?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: In the Punnapra Muslim Primary School for Girls.

Officer in administrative control of stationery and printing.

249 ✻**MR. K. T. THOMAS**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the date on which the officer in administrative control of stationery and printing was appointed;

(*b*) whether that officer has submitted any proposals or scheme to reorganise the Stationery and Printing departments and to effect economy;

(*c*) what savings have been effected so far by way of reduction of posts in the two departments?

(*d*) whether according to a previous order the pay of the Superintendent, Government Press, and that of the Superintendent, Stationery Department, were to be reduced and the post of the Assistant Superintendent was to be abolished with the appointment of the Controlling Officer; and

(*e*) whether these have been carried out, if not, the reason therefor.

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: (*a*) 3-2-1113.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Though reduction in the scales of pay of some appointments has been effected, no reduction of posts has been found to be possible.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes, partly. Since a technical Controller as contemplated in the order referred to in (*d*) has not been appointed, the Assistant Superintendent's place could not be abolished.

MR K. T. THOMAS: May I know from the honourable member whether the present Controller is technically qualified for the appointment?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: He has no technical qualifications.

MR. K. T. THOMAS: May I know whether Government had not advertised for the appointment of the Controller with technical qualifications?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I claim notice. I am not now in possession of that information.

MR. K. T. THOMAS: With reference to answer to part (*d*) may I know why these reductions have not been made in the salary of the Superintendent, Government Press and the Superintendent, Stationery Department?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: So far as the Superintendent, Goverment Press, is concerned, a reduction in his salary was made. His pay was Rs. 250-350, now it is reduced to Rs. 200-250. But in the case of the Superintendent, Stationery Department, in view of the additional work given to him, it was thought that it would not be proper to reduce his scale of pay.

MR. K. T. THOMAS: May I know whether the reduction of the salary of the Superintendent of the Stationery Department was not recommended by the Controller?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: No Controller was appointed, as contemplated.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know why a technically qualified Controller was not appointed?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: No suitable candidate was available.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Was that post not advertised?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I have already answered that question.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Is t the position of the Government that a technically qualified Controller is not necessary?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Government have not come to that conclusion.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know why a Controller was thought of if it is not to be a techical Controller?

PRESIDENT: The Chief Secretary has answered that Goverment have not come to that conclusion.

Special fee concessions to Muslim students.

250 ***MR. M. K. MACKAR PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) why the special fee concessions to Muslim students are withdrawn;

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